

## VK:e Updates...

**Tower 1, Blue Ridge** – an IT SEZ complex developed by Paranjape Schemes receives **Platinum pre-certification** under LEED India Core and Shell System.

**Marvel Cerise** – a 2.4 hec residential project by Marvel realtors at Kharadi, Pune achieves **Platinum** rating under IGBC Green Homes Pre-certification stage. The project aims to plant 50.8% of the landscape area with drought tolerant species.

**Darvesh Horizon** – a 4 lac sq.ft. residential project by Darvesh Properties, at Dahisar, Mumbai achieves **Platinum** rating under IGBC Green Homes Pre-certification stage.

Events: Sustainability Initiatives conducted a workshop on “Green Building” successfully at Sinhgad College of Engineering, Pune on March, 3, 2012. More than 50 students participated in the workshop.

Aadarsh conducted workshop on GRIHA in Goa on the 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

## Sustainable Decision...



*Polluted - Need Solutions*

**Environmental Performance Index, 2012** ranked India in **125<sup>th</sup>** out of 132 countries in addressing pollution control and natural resource management. Environmental pollution is becoming a threat and India's low rank in EPI is a wake up call to our Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee. He has included a chapter on “**Sustainable Development & Climate Change**” for the first time in 2012-2013 budget. He has allocated Rs. 2430 Cr to MoEF which is 5% more than the last year Rs. 2300 Cr.

### Did you know...

Buying an energy efficient fridge freezer to replace your inefficient model could cut carbon dioxide emissions produced indirectly by your home by up to 228Kg a year.

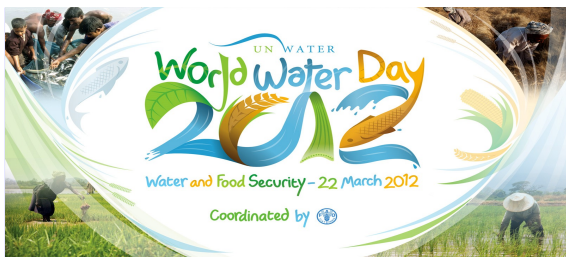
In industrialized countries, an average meat eater consumes 3600 L of water a day which is 1.6 times more than 2300 L used daily by vegetarian people. This figure includes the water footprint of packaging and supply chain.

## Green House Gas Protocol...



In parallel with the budget, the GHG Protocol under World Resources Institute, the World Business The Council for Sustainable Development and The Energy and Resources Institute launched 2 new standards, **Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3)** and **Product Life Cycle Standards** in India for sustainable business decision and local training session was given for the two standards. It will help to empower to better measure, manage and report their Green House Gas Emission. According to the Carbon Disclosure Projects 2011 India Report, 57 companies out of 200 submitted reports and 89% reported their GHG emissions using GHG Protocol Corporate standard. This protocol will allow Indian companies to identify and target new market opportunities for low carbon business models and products.

From 1st April 2012, documents for obtaining EC shall submit in PDF format in soft copy for its uploading on the website of MoEF / SEIAA along with the hard copy. Any application with both hard and soft copies shall proceed for clearance.



**World Water Day** has been observed every year on **22 March**. This year's theme "**The World Is Thirsty Because We Are Hungry**" reflects the relation of water to food production. Reduction of fresh water availability will lead to fall of food production. To highlight the issues of water scarcity and its linkages to food production, World Water Day 2012 was celebrated to educate the reality linked between water and food. The expected population from 7 billions to 9 billions by 2050 which means that more people will go thirsty and hungry in the years to come if we do not change our way of lifestyle and water consumption from this year.

The draft on **National Water Policy 2012** was released on January 31st, 2012 for better regulation and management of water resources at the river basin level. The draft has been uploaded in their websites for public comments.



Recently **Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP)** issued a directive for a cumulative comparative impact analysis of the plains and coastal regions of **Ratnagiri & Sindhudurg** districts of Maharashtra. Even though the Zoning Atlases for Siting of Industries (ZASI) prohibits such industry settlements in ESZs and requires environmental clearance, the pressure on the local biodiversity is still on a row.

The environmental degradation observed in the region includes loss of groundwater, deforestation, depletion of fisheries and so on.

Where the country's power industry is seeking investments in renewable energy, the Ecologically Sensitive Zones (ESZs), being a prominent resource pool, are still struggling to survive with a constant pressure from mining industry.

### Nithu says...

"The need for **GOING GREEN** has spread profusely and has made a positive impact. New construction has stolen the sustainability spotlight so far and we mistakenly think it's too late or not worthwhile to pursue sustainability with existing buildings. It is a known phenomenon that **buildings** are the prime target area for any strategy addressing climate change as they account for approximately half of all annual energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

Whilst new commercial buildings increasingly address sustainability considerations, incorporating green technology in the refurbishment process of older buildings is technically, financially and socially challenging. Simple techniques of retrofitting like installation of chilled water pumps, solar water heating, and automatic dimming lights, contribute to improve the environmental performance of the building."

*It is important get started from our own homes and offices and be the change we wish to see.*